

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 3, 5 to 7 and 19 to 22, 24, 26, 28 and 30 to 36, are pending in this application; of which, claims 1 and 19 are the independent claims. Applicants have added new dependent claims 31 to 36 (see Applicants' specification, page 7, lines 12 to 20). Favorable reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Initially, Applicants thank the Examiner for conducting an interview on April 17, 2007. The Examiner indicated that upon further review that claims 23 to 30 would overcome the §112 rejection and the §102 rejection. Applicants have amended the claims to include features of claim 23 and 25 into independent claim 1 and features of claims 27 and 29 into independent claim 19.

Claims 23 to 30 were rejected under §112, first paragraph, because the claims allegedly were not supported by the specification. The Examiner acknowledged in the foregoing telephone conference that claims are supported by the specification.

Claim 3 was rejected under §112, second paragraph, because the quantities of coreactant and prepolymer were switched. Applicants amended the application accordingly.

Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the foregoing §112 rejections.

Claims 1 to 3, 5 to 7, 19 and 22 to 30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being anticipated by Barber. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 20040101680).

Amended claim 1 is directed to a fabric product. The fabric product includes a fabric layer which includes a plurality of high strength and high modulus fibers. The plurality of fibers is impregnated by an impregnation compound with the fabric layer coated on each side with the impregnation compound. The impregnation compound is derived from a mixture including a pre-polymer, a co-reactant curative and a diluent. The diluent solvates the mixture of the pre-polymer and the curative. The impregnation compound has a curative stoichiometry range of less than 85 percent. The high strength and high modulus fibers include at least one of aramid fibers and aromatic polyester fibers.

The applied art is not understood to disclose or to suggest the foregoing features of claim 1. In particular, Barber does not disclose or suggest that the high strength and high modulus fibers include at least one of aramid fibers and aromatic polyester fibers.

Barber discloses a fiber web that includes continuous filaments that may include polyester fibers, polyamide fibers and polyaramid fibers (see paragraph [0081] of Barber). However, Barber does not specify high strength and high modulus fibers nor does Barber suggest high strength and high modulus fibers that include at least one of aramid fibers and aromatic polyester fibers. Therefore, Barber does not disclose or suggest that the high strength and high modulus fibers include at least one of aramid fibers and aromatic polyester fibers.

For at least this reason, Applicant request withdrawal of the Barber references.

Claim 19 is a system claim having corresponding features to claim 1. Applicants submit the Barber reference should also be withdrawn with respect to claim 19 for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

Applicants submit that all dependent claims now depend on allowable independent claims.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants request withdrawal of the art rejection.

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above may not be exhaustive, there may be reasons for withdrawing the prior art cited with regards to any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

Applicants submit that the entire application is now in condition for allowance. Such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

All correspondence should be directed to the address below. Applicants' attorney can be reached by telephone at (781) 401-9988 ext. 23.

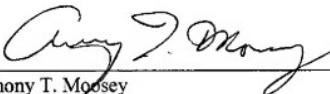
Applicants : Elsworth et al.
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Filed : February 5, 2004
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Attorney's Docket No.: RTN-194AUS

No fee is believed to be due for this Response; however, if any fees are due, please apply such fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0845 referencing Attorney Docket: RTN-194AUS.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 19 April 2007



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